

...NOAA WEATHER RADIO ALL HAZARDS AWARENESS DAY IS FEBRUARY 6TH...

The National Weather Service reminds Michigan residents to prepare in advance for the changes that weather can bring to our daily lives. NOAA Weather Radio can help the citizens of the state and the Nation be ready for all types of weather conditions.

Preparedness begins for everyone with a plan of action. This plan should be kept up to date and practiced frequently. A vital aspect of the plan should be to designate someone to monitor NOAA Weather Radio.

Michigan residents should stay informed by listening to NOAA Weather Radio for the latest forecasts, watches, and warnings. When conditions are favorable for severe weather, a watch is issued. When severe weather is imminent or occurring, a warning is issued.

National Weather Service personnel use information from Doppler Radar, storm spotters, state and local officials, satellites, and other sources to issue warnings. These watches and warnings are broadcast over local NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards stations and also are retransmitted by many local radio, television, and cable TV stations. With this information, local emergency management and public safety officials can activate local warning systems to alert communities of an impending weather threat.

The National Weather Service provides emergency weather information used to alert the public to dangerous conditions. Linking the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards network electronically with the nations Emergency Alert System (EAS) helps the National Weather Service save lives by reaching more people with timely, site-specific severe weather warnings.

As part of the EAS...the National Weather Service has employed a alerting system called Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME). SAME uses digital coding to activate only those special receivers programmed for specific emergency conditions in a specific area, typically a county. SAME can activate specially equipped NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receivers and provide a short text message that identifies the location and type of emergency. SAME is the primary weather activator of the Emergency Alert System.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards broadcasts warning and post event information for all types of hazards, both natural and technological. Working with other federal agencies and the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Alert System, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards is an all hazards radio network, making it the single source for the most comprehensive weather and emergency information available to the public.

All warnings are broadcast immediately on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards. Having a NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards can be an important part of your safety plan.

Special radios designed to receive only NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards are available from several manufacturers. Most NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receivers are either battery-operated or ac-powered desktop models with battery backup. Many come with special audible or visual alert features which are activated by National Weather Service forecasters in the event of severe weather or during a local environmental hazard.

Some cb radios, scanners, short wave, and standard AM/FM radios are also capable of receiving NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards transmissions but lack alerting features. Even some automobile, aircraft, and marine manufacturers offer NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards in their product lines. Weather radios can be purchased at many electronics stores, other retail outlets, or over the internet.

Additional information on NOAA Weather Radio receivers can be found at, <http://www.weather.gov/nwr/nwrrcvr.htm>

For less than the cost of a new pair of shoes you can own a special weather radio that provides instant access to the same weather reports and emergency information that meteorologists and emergency personnel use...information that can save your life.